

Organizational Framework



Developing a Sustained Regional Partnership

- Using a clear directive from the President, collectively **explore place-based, ecosystem approaches to management**
- Commit to a **long-term partnership** with the Alliance
- Wherever possible, **work within existing partnership frameworks** (e.g., Gulf of Mexico Program, GCOOS, CZM, Sea Grant, etc.)
- Work to **overcome traditional impediments** to federal and federal-state integration
- Organize a team of federal officials, with **designated co-leads**, for each focus area
- **Engage the AQUABOX, SIMOR, JSOST, OCEAN.US, and Regional Associations** in the development of the Gulf Alliance *Plan of Action*
- **Solicit local input** through 9 Gulf region stakeholder workshops
- Support involvement by Mexico and 6 Mexican Gulf states

Responding to the White Papers

- Identify **high-impact federal program integration opportunities**, rather than inventorying relevant federal programs
- Respond with **quality over quantity**
- Wherever possible, provide Gulf managers with **knowledge rather than just data**
- Recognize opportunities to **advance IOOS** in the Gulf region
- Categories of possible *agency* contributions to the integrated federal response
 - **Existing** – Activities underway or already programmed
 - **Accelerated** – Planned activities easily accelerated or refocused
 - **Reallocation** – New activities requiring reallocation of current year funds
 - **Partnership** – Activities that require federal agency interaction to move forward
 - **USOAP** – Activities called for in the U.S. OAP (this cross-walk might help eliminate two needs with one action)
 - **New** – New out-year activities entered into FY08, and beyond, budget formulation processes

Refining Alliance Needs

The need

For the agencies participating on the Federal Workgroup to best formulate an effective response to regional needs outlined in the Alliance White Papers, need statements need to be expressed at an “actionable” level.

The proposal

1. Identify federal staff co-leads for each focus area.
2. Provide states examples of “actionable” level need statements, and request refinement via email
3. The federal staff co-leads hold a series of 3 conference calls, over a 3 week period, to facilitate the refinement of Alliance needs to an “actionable” level
4. Have both the lead representative and the designated issue expert(s) attend from each of the five Gulf states.

June 9 State-Federal Coordination Meeting: Federal Agency Roles

	Water Quality	Nutrients Reduction	Wetlands Restoration	Habitat Identification	Education
CEQ	√	√	√	√	√
EPA	Co-Lead	Co-Lead	√	√	Co-Lead
NOAA	Co-Lead	√	√	√	Co-Lead
DOI	√	√	Co-Lead	Co-Lead	√
USDA	√	Co-Lead	√		√
USACE	√	√	Co-Lead	√	√
HHS/FDA	√				√
NASA	√	√	√	Co-Lead	√
DOD	√			√	√
DOT			√	√	√
DOE				√	√
NSF		√			√
DOS	√	√	√	√	√

Conceptual Timeline for the *Plan of Action*

